

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chair Dee Brown, on February 4, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 335 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Dee Brown, Chair (R)
Sen. Roger Webb, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Robyn Driscoll (D)
Sen. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Rachel Weiss, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 124, 1/30/2015; SB 195, 1/22/2015; SB 198, 1/22/2015

Executive Action: SB 168 Do Pass as Amended; HB 64 Be Concurred In; HB 84 Be Concurred In

HEARING ON HB 124

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:49 Rep. Wendy McKamey (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 124, Revise retirement plan laws to ensure federal tax qualification.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:16 Dore Schwinden, Montana Public Employees Retirement Administration (MPERA)

00:06:15 Melanie Symons, MPERA

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts25a01)

00:08:07 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association (MPEA)

00:08:57 Diane Fladmo, MEA-MFT

00:09:30 Sheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:09:57 Sen. Kary

00:10:53 Ms. Symons

00:11:08 Chair Brown

00:11:17 Sen. Kary

00:11:34 Ms. Symons

00:11:45 Chair Brown

00:12:09 Ms. Symons

00:12:41 Sen. Hinkle

00:13:23 Ms. Symons

00:14:56 Sen. Hinkle

Closing by Sponsor:

00:15:41 Rep. McKamey

00:17:33 Recess

00:30:35 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 195

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:30:39 Sen. Mary Caferro (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 195, Revise employment protections for national guard members of other states.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:31:51 Sen. Caferro said that Dan Antonetti, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW); Max Kuntz, National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI); and Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce were proponents.

00:31:59 Mark San Souci, state liaison, Department of Defense (DoD)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts25a02)

00:37:50 Jim Higgins, Montana National Guard Association (MTNG)

00:40:38 Gary White, American Legion of Montana (ALMT)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:41:26 Chair Brown

00:41:52 Mr. Higgins, MTNG

00:42:08 Chair Brown

00:42:26 Mr. San Souci, DoD

00:44:24 Chair Brown

00:44:26 Mr. San Souci

00:44:39 Chair Brown

00:44:47 Mr. White, ALMT

Closing by Sponsor:

00:45:13 Sen. Caferro

HEARING ON SB 198

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:47:16 Sen. Mary Caferro (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 198, Revise longevity laws for state employees.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:50:10 Sheila Hogan, director, Department of Administration (DOA)

00:56:13 Jackie Helt, SEIU Healthcare 775 NW

00:58:12 Jane Amdahl, AARP Montana

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts25a03)

00:59:46 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association (MPEA)

01:00:52 Terry Minow, MEA-MFT

01:01:57 Chris Cavazos, AFL-CIO

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:02:39	Sen. Kary
01:03:14	Ms. Hogan, DOA
01:03:50	Marjorie Thomas, attorney, DOA
01:04:35	Sen. Kary
01:05:06	Ms. Hogan
01:05:54	Sen. Kary
01:06:06	Ms. Hogan
01:06:52	Chair Brown
01:07:33	Ms. Hogan
01:08:29	Sen. Kary
01:08:49	Chair Brown
01:08:59	Ms. Hogan
01:09:17	Chair Brown
01:10:00	Sen. Hinkle
01:10:22	Ms. Hogan
01:10:53	Mr. Schneider, MPEA
01:12:09	Chair Brown
01:12:19	Mr. Schneider
01:12:33	Sen. Hinkle
01:12:42	Ms. Hogan
01:13:17	Sen. Hinkle
01:14:23	Ms. Hogan
01:14:42	Chair Brown
01:15:08	Ms. Hogan
01:15:13	Sen. Hinkle
01:15:23	Ms. Hogan
01:16:26	Sen. Hinkle
01:17:07	Ms. Hogan
01:17:20	Sen. Malek
01:17:31	Ms. Hogan
01:17:46	Ms. Thomas, DOA
01:18:48	Sen. Malek
01:19:01	Ms. Hogan
01:19:23	Sen. Malek
01:19:52	Ms. Hogan
01:20:04	Ms. Thomas
01:20:46	Sen. Malek
01:20:58	Ms. Thomas
01:21:17	Sen. Malek
01:22:29	Ms. Hogan
01:22:55	Sen. Malek
01:23:13	Chair Brown
01:23:56	Ms. Hogan
01:24:15	Chair Brown
01:24:43	Ms. Hogan
01:25:07	Chair Brown

01:25:21 Melanie Symons, chief legal counsel, Montana Public Employees Retirement Administration (MPERA)

01:27:37 Chair Brown

01:27:40 Ms. Symons, MPERA

Closing by Sponsor:

01:27:59 Sen. Caferro

EXHIBIT(sts25a04)

01:32:01 Recess

01:35:05 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 168

01:35:32 Rachel Weiss, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:35:57 **Motion:** Sen. Whitford moved that **SB 168 DO PASS.**

01:36:38 **Motion:** Sen. Webb moved that **SB 168 BE AMENDED.**

EXHIBIT(sts25a05)

Discussion:

01:37:03 Ms. Weiss, LSD

01:38:44 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:38:54 **Motion:** Sen. Webb moved that **SB 168 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:39:12 Chair Brown

01:39:30 Sen. Hinkle

01:39:56 Ms. Weiss

01:41:32 Sen. Hinkle

01:42:04 Ms. Weiss

01:42:42 Sen. Malek

01:44:07 Chair Brown

01:44:41 Sen. Whitford

01:46:03 Sen. Malek

01:46:28 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 64

01:47:20 **Motion:** Sen. Webb moved that **HB 64 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:47:31 Chair Brown

01:47:36 Rachel Weiss, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:47:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Whitford will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 84

01:48:25 **Motion:** Sen. Malek moved that **HB 84 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:48:31 Chair Brown

01:50:37 **Motion:** Sen. Malek moved that **HB 84 BE AMENDED.**

EXHIBIT(sts25a06)

Discussion:

01:51:35 Sen. Kary

01:52:05 Rachel Weiss, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:52:37 Chair Brown

01:53:16 **Vote:** Motion failed 2-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Malek and Sen. Whitford voting aye.

01:54:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Brown will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:56 p.m.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([sts25aad.pdf](#))